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Antonius Stradiuarius Cremonenſis
Faciebat Anno 1726

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EDWARD AND MARIANNA
HERON-ALLEN.
JULY, MD.CCC.XCI.

No 15 BROAD STREET.
NEW YORK.

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New York, 6th. July, 1893.

MR. EDWARD HERON ALLEN,

17 Carlisle Street, Soho Square,

LLondon, W., England.

Dear sir:-

I have recently received through the courtesy of Mrs. Hawley, of Hartford, your letters of September 30, 1892 and June 6th, 1893, regarding the brochure that my father, Mr. Edward D. Adams, printed at the time he presented to me the Greville Stradiuarius that he purchased from Mr. R. D. Hawley, of Hartford, Connecticut.

Although only a few copies of this were printed for our family, yet as I have long since recognized in you a most enthusiastic violin connoisseur, I take much pleasure in presenting you with a copy of the Greville Stradiuarius Brochure, which I send you by this post trusting that it may reach you in safety.

I shall be very glad to possess a copy of your "Bibliology of Violin Literature."

Faithfully yours,

Ernest Templeton Adams
E.T.A.

New York, 6th. July, 1892.

MR. EDWARD HEYER ALLEN,

17 Carlisle Street, Soho Square,

London, W., England.

Dear Sir:-

I have recently received through the courtesy of Mrs. Hawley, of Hartford, your letter of September 30, 1892 and June 6th, 1893, regarding the production that my father, Mr. Edward D. Adams, obtained at the time he presented to me the Orsville Stradivarius which he purchased from Mr. R.D. Hawley, of Hartford, Connecticut.

Although only a few copies of this were printed for our family, yet as I have long since recognized in you a most enthusiastic violin connoisseur, I take much pleasure in presenting you with a copy of the Orsville Stradivarius Brochure, which I send you by this post trusting that it may reach you in safety.

I shall be very glad to possess a copy of your "Bibliology of Violin Literature."

Yours truly,

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THE GRÉVILLE STRADIUARIUS OF 1726.

CHRISTMAS,
MDCCCLXXXIX.

THE
GRÉVILLE STRADIUARIUS
OF 1726

OWNED BY
ERNEST KEMPTON ADAMS,
NEW-YORK.

THE DE VINNE PRESS

HARTFORD, CT., Oct. 1, 1889.

EDWARD D. ADAMS, Esq.,
OF NEW YORK,

To R. D. HAWLEY *Dr.*

For a violin by Antonius Stradiuarius, Cremona, date 1726, Grand pattern, in the highest state of preservation and all original.

A Violin Bow by Francis Tourte, Jr., with Tortoise Shell Frog and Gold Mountings, and a Violin Case, in all.

Received payment,

R. D. HAWLEY.

STRADIUARIUS AT WORK.

DESCRIPTION.

MAKER, Antonius Stradiuarius, Cremona, date 1726, of the largest Grand pattern, and in a high state of preservation, and of the most massive construction. The wood of the belly is of fine and even grain, and of the choicest description for tone, and of the same kind of wood and cutting as Wilhelmji's. The back (in two parts) is of beautiful figured maple and evenly matches the sides, giving a most beautiful and charming appearance. The scroll is bold and massive, and characteristic of this period. The var-

nish is of a most beautiful and delicate cherry color, and rare. Its tone is grand and noble, possessing in the highest degree that pure, powerful, and charming quality so eminently characteristic of Antonius Stradiuarius.

HISTORY.

THE history of the Grand Stradiuarius, 1726, is from Messrs. Hart & Son, of London, the eminent dealers and connoisseurs, and as having been known to them for a period of upwards of fifty years, no little time in fiddle history.

It was said to have been brought direct from Cremona, by one of the Gréville family, and passed into the possession of the Messrs. Betts, of the "Royal Exchange." They disposed of it to Col. Stodart about the year 1812. When the late Mr. John Hart was

with Gilkes the violin-maker as an apprentice, he used often to see the "Strad.," its owner frequently bringing it to the shop. It would be about 1826. It afterwards passed to Col. Stodart's son, and remained with him until his death, when, through the medium of Messrs. Hart & Son, it became the property of Mr. R. D. Hawley, of Hartford, Conn., April 8, 1879, and is, at this date, now transferred by sale to Edward D. Adams, Esq., of New-York.

Dated, Hartford, Conn.
Oct. 1, 1889.

HOUSE OF STRADIUARIUS,

WEST SIDE, PIAZZA ROMA, CREMONA.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, }
County and City of Hartford. }

On this first day of October, A. D. 1889, before me, the subscriber, personally came R. D. Hawley, to me known to be the individual whose signature is attached to the annexed "Bill of Sale" and description of a Violin, date 1726, by "Antonius Stradiuarius" of Cremona, together with bow by Francis Tourte, Jr., and violin case, and by the said R. D. Hawley sold to Mr. Edward D. Adams, of New-York City, and who, by me first being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that the said Violin is correctly described in said bill of sale and description, and that the history thereof as stated therein is true in every respect, as this deponent has been fully informed and verily believes.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this first day of October, A. D. 1889.

CHARLES M. JOSLYN, *Notary Public*,
Hartford County, Connecticut.

The Instrument on which he played
Was in Cremona's workshops made
By a great master of the past,
Ere yet was lost the art divine;
Fashioned of maple and of pine,
That in Tyrolean forests vast
Had rocked and wrestled with the blast:
Exquisite was it in design,
Perfect in each minutest part,
A marvel of the lutist's art;
And in the hollow chamber, thus,
The maker from whose hands it came
Had written his unrivalled name—
"Antonius Stradivarius."

H. W. Longfellow,
"Tales of a Wayside Inn."

GRAVE OF STRADIUARIUS,

CHAPEL OF THE ROSARY, CHURCH OF SAN DOMENICO, CREMONA, AS IT APPEARED IN 1870.